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Docket No.: 063979-0028

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of
Takashi NISHIKAWA, et al.

Application No.: 10/616,917

Filed: July 11, 2003

For: A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A FABRICATION METHOD THEREOF

Customer Number: 20277

Confirmation Number: 2411

Group Art Unit: 2822

Examiner: Kiesha L. Rose

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

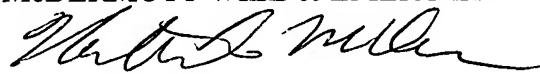
The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Nathaniel D. McQueen
Registration No. 53,308

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 NDM:JGH
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: August 14, 2006

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION  (PTO-1449)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 063979-0028	SERIAL NO. 10/616,917	
APPLICANT Takashi NISHIKAWA, et al.						
FILING DATE July 11, 2003				GROUP 2822		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ₂ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	US	6,013,553	01/11/2000	Wallace et al.		
A1	US	2001/0045595	11/29/2001	Black et al.	Corresponding to CN 1211827	
A1	US	2003/0034548	02/20/2003	Hayashi et al.	Corresponding to CN 1338113	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number &-Kind Codes (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation Yes No
		CN 1211827 English abstract	03/24/1999	IBM	Corresponding US 2001/0045595	
		CN 1338113 English abstract	02/27/2002	Symetrix Corp	Corresponding US 2003/0034548	
A		CN 1090428	08/03/1994	Univ Shandong (CN)	With English abstract	
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				
		Office Action dated May 12, 2006				
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.